[handwritten top:] In. Sum. In re Van Geuns — Spec.

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permission, as provided in the (description) of Figures 2 and 5, on page 13, line 24 through page 14, line 9 of the present Application (*see also,* page 14, line 10 through page 16, line 6).

[handwritten: well-known]

Therefore, in the present invention a data protection system protects data requiring authorization for use (i.e., input data) against unauthorized use of the data during utilization of the data. Although data requiring authorization for use may be initially authorized for use, for example, by a particular user, subsequent uses of such data may not necessarily be authorized. The data protection system according to the present invention prevents such subsequent *[handwritten: ? in claim ?]* unauthorized uses by determining whether the data being utilized/processed (for example, the data is being utilized when incorporated in data created by a another user) requires *[handwritten: No]* authorization for use. If the data that is being utilized/processed requires authorization for use, *[handwritten: → Un-readabl]* the system generates and appends link information in the prepared data specifying the data requiring authorization for use. *[handwritten: what ??]*

[handwritten left: No inventive concept in claims]

In operation, the (system judges) if the data incorporated in the prepared data requires authorization for use and the system prevents the utilization/processing to be performed on the *[handwritten: well-known "hardware key"]* data requiring authorization for use (e.g., storage, cut and paste) unless authorization is *[handwritten: ?]* obtained. For example, storage of the original data requiring authorization is forbidden by the *[handwritten: "original diskette"]* system to prevent subsequent unauthorized use of the data. Cut and paste operations on the protected data are also blocked by the present invention. The prepared data may still be *[handwritten left: well-known]* utilized/processed without utilizing/processing the data that requires authorization until *[handwritten: well-known]* authorization is obtained.

To further clarify the patentably distinguishing features of the present invention, independent claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 15 and 18-22 were amended, and a new claim 23 was added in the Amendment filed on December 4, 2000 in response to the Office Action mailed August 3, 2000.

[handwritten bottom left: check "above discussion not in claims"]

[handwritten bottom right: In. Sum. not narrow enough w/ cited prior art.]